

House Resolution 1915

By: Representative Day of the 163rd

A RESOLUTION

1 Creating the House Study Committee on Comprehensive State Nomenclature Law; and for
2 other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, current Georgia laws applicable to state nomenclature exist only on an agency
4 specific basis, and many state entities have no nomenclature protections; and

5 WHEREAS, there is no state-wide nomenclature protection law covering all state
6 nomenclature, including agency seals, badges, logos, and agency names; and

7 WHEREAS, it has come to the attention of the members of this body that the laws protecting
8 the use of the state seal do not sufficiently protect against the unauthorized use of the state
9 seal by nongovernmental or nonstate entities or persons; and

10 WHEREAS, state prosecutors are unable to prosecute certain manufacturers and users of
11 fraudulent drivers' licenses due to permitted replication of Georgia drivers' licenses under
12 current law; and

13 WHEREAS, the authorized replication of Georgia drivers' licenses seriously undermines the
14 driver's license laws of this state; and

15 WHEREAS, permitted replication and use of Georgia drivers' licenses, as well as the state
16 seal and the nomenclature of state agencies, is detrimental to the public safety interest of the
17 citizens of the State of Georgia; and

18 WHEREAS, in light of the above, it is now time to closely scrutinize and improve Georgia's
19 nomenclature laws.

20 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that
21 there is created the House Study Committee on Comprehensive State Nomenclature Law to
22 be composed of five members of the House of Representatives to be appointed by the

1 Speaker of the House of Representatives. The Speaker of the House of Representatives shall
2 designate a member of the committee as chairperson of the committee. The chairperson shall
3 call all meetings of the committee.

4 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the committee shall undertake a study of Georgia's
5 nomenclature laws generally and shall specifically consider and review the following:

6 (1) The need for a nomenclature law applicable to all state agencies and entities;

7 (2) The need to revise state law pertaining to the official state seal for purposes of
8 preventing the use of such seal by unauthorized entities and persons; and

9 (3) The need to modify current laws pertaining to the reproduction of drivers' licenses
10 and Georgia's driver's license to prevent the misuse and forgery of such licenses.

11 The committee shall make recommendations for changes in legislation and shall provide
12 copies of proposed legislation to be prepared by the Office of Legislative Counsel and shall
13 recommend any other action or make such report which the study committee deems
14 appropriate.

15 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the committee shall undertake a study of the conditions,
16 needs, and issues mentioned above or related thereto and recommend any action or
17 legislation which the committee deems necessary or appropriate. The committee may
18 conduct such meetings at such places and at such times as it may deem necessary or
19 convenient to enable it to exercise fully and effectively its powers, perform its duties, and
20 accomplish the objectives and purposes of this resolution. The members of the committee
21 shall receive the allowances provided for in Code Section 28-1-8 of the Official Code of
22 Georgia Annotated. The allowances authorized by this resolution shall not be received by
23 any member of the committee for more than five days unless additional days are authorized.
24 The funds necessary to carry out the provisions of this resolution shall come from the funds
25 appropriated to the House of Representatives. In the event the committee makes a report of
26 its findings and recommendations, with suggestions for proposed legislation, if any, such
27 report shall be made on or before December 31, 2008, at which time the committee shall
28 stand abolished.